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**TO: EXAMINER J. BAXTER
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MESSAGE:

**PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION CONCERNING THE BELOW
IDENTIFIED CASE TO EXAMINER J. BAXTER**

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-014-8

Application No.: 10/003,996

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: November 15, 2001

Examiner: J. Baxter

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TISSUE REMOVAL

1. RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

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ATTENTION: Patent Examiner Jessica Baxter

On September 23, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*ATL/C
56
9-30-03*

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti

Confirmation No.: 8298

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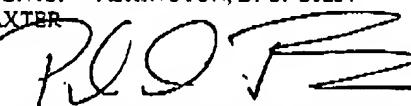
Introductory Comments

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 23, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file for the above-identified application. In accordance with USPTO practice, each section of this Amendment begins on a separate sheet. Claims 36-44, 46, 47, 49, 51-60, and 69-76 remain in this application and are submitted for the Examiner's review and consideration. In this Response, Applicant has amended certain claims and canceled other claims. Applicant believes these amendments, cancellations, and accompanying remarks serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.

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